

Roadside blasts kill 26 in Afghanistan

REUTERS, Kabul

A string of roadside bombs and clashes in southern Afghanistan killed at least 24 Afghan civilians and police yesterday, officials said, in one of the deadliest days of violence in the country for weeks.

Two Nato soldiers were also killed by a roadside bomb and insurgents in separate attacks over the past two days in the south, the coalition said, without providing further details.

Three bombs hit three vehicles in Kandahar province, the birthplace of the Taliban where the group has substantial sway and enjoys popular support, killing 18 people including children.

All allegations fabricated

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counsel Ekramul Huque told the International Crimes Tribunal-2.

"You [prosecution witness] have given false statement being prompted by the prosecution," Ekramul said during cross-examination of Mozaffar Ahmed Khan, the first prosecution witness of the case against the Jamaat assistant secretary general.

Mozaffar, also a freedom fighter, however rejected the defence's claims by just saying, "It is not true."

During his statement on July 3, Mozaffar said Quader Mollah led a team of local Razakars that killed at least 57 people at Ghatarchar in Keraniganj on November 25, 1971.

The three-member tribunal headed by Justice ATM Fazle Kabir adjourned the

case proceedings till today following a time plea of the defence.

When yesterday's court proceedings started at 10:40am, Mozaffar made apologies to the tribunal for an "unwanted incident" during his deposition on July 3 and said he became emotional.

At one point of his deposition that day, Mozaffar refused to continue his statement saying the court was charging him.

During the three-and-a-half-hour cross-examination yesterday, Ekramul Huque asked questions to the witness mostly on his activities as a freedom fighter during the Liberation War.

At one point, Ekramul asked: "Did you [Mozaffar] see him [Quader Mollah] committing crimes during

the Liberation War in 1971?"

"Yes, I saw him," replied Mozaffar.

"What types of crimes?" questioned Ekramul Huque.

"I saw him [Quader Mollah] standing in front of Mohammadpur Physical Training Centre with a Chinese rifle in his hand," replied the witness.

The training centre had been used as the torture cell of Razakar and Al-Badr [two auxiliary forces of the Pakistani occupational army] during the War, Mozaffar mentioned in his deposition.

"Did you see him doing anything else?" asked Ekramul Huque and the witness replied negatively.

Ekramul said the accused left Dhaka after Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's speech at

Dhaka's Race Course Maidan on March 7, 1971 and never came back before February 1972.

Mozaffar said, "It is not true."

Quader Mollah, however, on May 28 told the tribunal he left Dhaka on March 12 or 13 in 1971 and came back to Dhaka once in July for a few days to take part in an examination.

On May 28, the tribunal framed six charges against the Jamaat leader for his alleged involvement in murders and mass killings during the War.

Quader Mollah, who is among four Jamaat and BNP leaders facing crimes against humanity charges at the tribunal-2, was produced before the court yesterday.

Operations halted

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be applied to an elderly patient, witnesses said. Later, medical officers of the anaesthetic department beat up ATM Aman Ullah, an associate professor of the urology department.

The incident left visitors and patients shocked and helpless, especially for those who were on the operation table at that time.

Thirteen operations were scheduled for yesterday but only two were done before the unpleasant incident, BSMU officials said.

"It's true that many patients had to go back without having surgeries following the incident," said Prof AKM Anwarul Islam, chairman of the urology department. He, however, declined to speak further.

The physicians of the anaesthetic department also did not perform pre-OT check-ups of the patients under the urology department, for which 10 operations

on today's list will have to be postponed, sources at the university have said. These pending operations will ultimately affect the surgery schedules of urology patients in the next few days. Hence, a long queue may appear.

Aman Ullah told The Daily Star, "I was astonished by the acts and behaviour of those doctors [who attacked him]. I can't imagine that doctors can attack a surgeon inside an OT."

Prior to an operation, he had advised Shafiqul Islam, an assistant professor of the anaesthetic department, to give anaesthesia to the patient. But Shafique refused to do so, fearing that the condition of the patient might worsen, witnesses said.

At one stage, they engaged in an altercation.

Half an hour into the row, 15 to 20 medical officers of the anaesthetic department stormed into the OT room and beat up Aman Ullah in the presence of Prof Debabrata Banik, who was in charge of

the department yesterday.

They even got hold of surgical instruments, including sharp knives, and attacked Aman Ullah, according to patients who had watched the whole thing happening.

"I haven't heard of such an incident in my entire professional life," said Aman Ullah in a reaction.

Mohammad Ruhul Amin, 72, had to leave the OT room without having the surgery for which he was admitted to the hospital more than 20 days ago, his son Rabiul Awal said.

"I have seen many patients leaving the OT--some of them were frightened while a few others were screaming," he said, adding this was the second time the operation had been deferred.

The operation of Ruhul Amin was very important, said Aman Ullah.

He was scheduled to conduct five operations yesterday, but could not do any. Prof SAM Gholam

Kibria and Prof Md Sajid Hassan were supposed to operate on four patients, but they could each conduct only one operation.

Contacted, Prof Banik of the anaesthetic department told The Daily Star that Aman Ullah had been rude to his colleague Shafique.

He rejected the charge of an assault on Aman Ullah.

Referring to the aggressive doctors, who have been appointed recently, Aman Ullah questioned the recruitment process.

Hours after the incident, BSMU Vice-chancellor Prof Pran Gopal Datta formed a four-member committee headed by Prof Kanak Kanti Barua, dean of the Faculty of Surgery, to investigate the incident. The committee has been asked to submit a report in 72 hours.

"Action will be taken against the people responsible after the probe," BSMU Proctor ASM Zakaria told The Daily Star.

Coalmine blast kills 7 in China

AFP, Beijing

A gas blast at a coalmine in China's central province of Hunan killed seven people yesterday, state media said, the latest in a string of accidents in the country's dangerous mining industry.

The explosion killed the miners yesterday morning at the mine in Lianyuan city, though 39 others escaped, the official Xinhua news agency said.

The latest accident came as rescuers in another part of the same province were racing to find eight coal miners still missing four days after their mine flooded, state media said.

Rescue workers pulled eight miners out of the coal mine in Leyang city, but another eight remained unaccounted for, Xinhua said in a separate report.

Call for greater role

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Women MPs from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, and parliamentary experts, civil society members and high-ranking government officials are attending the meeting.

The conference, first of its kind, is jointly hosted by the USAID, The Asia Foundation and UKAid.

Participants in several sessions discussed bringing gender equality to the forefront of national politics, women's wing of political parties, gender-responsive budgeting and other related issues.

Media, however, was not allowed to cover all the sessions except for the brief inaugural part of the conference.

Addressing the inaugural session as the chief guest, Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury, deputy leader of the House, said Bangladesh is internationally recognised for ensuring women's participation in politics and its position in the world is 11 in this regard.

"Seven women won from Awami League in the 1970

general elections of the then National Assembly of Pakistan. And now we have 69 female MPs in the 9th parliament, which is around 20 percent of the total seats," she mentioned.

Sajeda observed that the conference is especially important as it will create opportunity to learn from each other and build linkages by strengthening communication within and across borders.

She said Bangladesh has used the gender-based quota system [in parliament] to integrate women in politics and enable women compete on a level playing field.

Agriculture Minister Matia Chowdhury said from the early days of civilisation, women have been playing a key role, especially in the field of agriculture. "It's women who preserve the seeds and go for cultivation."

Women in rural Bangladesh, she noted, also play a vital role in decision-making in the agricultural sector and are also involved in poultry and livestock production. "For Bangladeshi women, sky is the limit."

Nick Low, acting British

high commissioner to Bangladesh, said the conference will promote a more effective role for women leaders across South Asia through increased communication.

Carla Koppell, senior coordinator for Gender for Equality and Women's Empowerment at the USAID, said enduring democracy cannot be achieved without women's participation in every decision-making.

Women must be empowered meaningfully, she insisted adding, Bangladesh has been a pioneer in empowering women.

Mahfuzur Rahman, secretary in charge of Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat, Suzanne Siskel, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of The Asia Foundation, spoke, among others.

Organisers said a regional network of women parliamentarians is likely to be formed, while a secretariat would be established to serve as a regional coordination centre for supporting women legislators of the eight participating countries.

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দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

১। বিষয় বা কাজের নাম	ক) শ্রীমঙ্গল বি-টাইপ ভবনের মেরামত ও সংরক্ষণ কাজ। খ) ব্রাহ্মবাড়ীয়া-আশুগঞ্জ এবং ব্রাহ্মবাড়ীয়া-শাহজিবাজার ১৩২ কেডি সম্মেলন লাইনের সার্কিট-১ ও ২ এর ২০৯ সি, ২১০, ২১৩, ২২৪, ২২৮, ২৬৪ এবং ২৬৮ নং এঙ্গেল টাওয়ার এর জরুরী সংরক্ষণ কাজ। গ) শ্রীমঙ্গলের আওতাধীন সকল নিয়মিত কর্মকর্তা (জুনিয়র সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক পর্যন্ত)/ কর্মচারীদের ইউনিফর্ম ও জুতা মোজা সরবরাহ করণ কাজ।
২। জানামতের টাকা (ফেরতযোগ্য)	ক কাজের জন্য টাকা ১৭,৬০০/-, খ কাজের জন্য টাকা ৬,০০০/-, গ কাজের জন্য টাকা ৫,০০০/- মাত্র পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকূলে যে কোন তফসীল ব্যাংক কর্তৃক পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে দেয়।
৩। দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য	প্রতিসেট ক কাজের জন্য টাকা ৬০০/-, খ কাজের জন্য টাকা ২০০/-, গ কাজের জন্য টাকা ১৬০/- মাত্র অফেসরতযোগ্য পাওয়ার গ্রীড কোম্পানী অব বাংলাদেশ লিঃ এর অনুকূলে তফসীলভুক্ত ব্যাংক এর পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে দেয়।
৪। দরপত্র দলিলপত্রাদি প্রাপ্তিস্থান	ক) মহাব্যবস্থাপক (সম্মেলন-১), ১নং আঃ গণি রোড, বিদ্যুৎ ভবন (৪র্থ তলা), ঢাকা। খ) কোম্পানী সচিব, পিজিসিবি লিঃ প্রধান কার্যালয়, আইইবি ভবন, রমনা ঢাকা। গ) উপ-মহাব্যবস্থাপক, গ্রীড সার্কেল- কুমিল্লা, পিজিসিবি, জাঙ্গালিয়া, কুমিল্লা। ঘ) নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তর।
৫। ঠিকাদারের যোগ্যতা	বিভূবো/আরইবি/পিডব্লিউডি এর হাল সনের তালিকাভুক্ত যেকোন এম্প (ক) এর জন্য ১ম শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান (খ) এর জন্য হাল সনের তালিকাভুক্ত অনুরূপ কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন ১ম শ্রেণীর এবিসি লাইসেন্সধারী ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠান এবং (গ) এর জন্য হাল সনের তালিকাভুক্ত যেকোন শ্রেণীর ঠিকাদারী/সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান।
৬। দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	২৯/৭/২০১২ইং দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা।
৭। দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ সময় ও স্থান	৩০/৭/২০১২ইং দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকা, ক্রমিক নং-৪ এর (খ) ব্যতীত যে কোন দপ্তরে দরপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে।
৮। দরপত্র খাম খোলার স্থান ও সময়	৩১/৭/২০১২ইং দুপুর ১২:০০ ঘটিকায় নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে সকল দরপত্র একত্র করে দরপত্রাগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সকল দরপত্রের খাম খোলা হবে।

৯। দরপত্র ক্রয়ের পূর্বে দপ্তর প্রধানের নিকট ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের হালনাগাদ তালিকাভুক্তির ও মালিকানা দলিল, ব্যাংক সল্ভেন্সি সার্টিফিকেট, আয়করের হালনাগাদ সার্টিফিকেট, VAT রেজিস্ট্রেশন ও হালনাগাদ ট্রেড লাইসেন্স প্রদর্শন এবং দপ্তর প্রধানের অনুমতি গ্রহণ করতে হবে। সিডিউলে উল্লেখকৃত অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী এফেক্বে প্রযোজ্য হবে। কোন কারন দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে দরপত্র বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা পিজিসিবি কর্তৃক সংরক্ষণ করে।
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Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the competent manufacturers/suppliers for supply of above materials as per under-noted schedule. Tender document showing terms and conditions with specification will be available from the office of The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd, Gazipur and its Liaison Office at Annex Building-1, 6th Floor, Bangladesh Bank, Dhaka-1000 during Sunday to Thursday between 10:00am to 4:00pm during normal office days and between 10:00am to 1:30pm during the holy Ramadan against an application in the letterhead pad from the respective firm against payment of Tk 200.00 (two hundred):

- Selling of tender document : From 09.07.2012 to 26.07.2012.
- Last date and time for : 12.08.2012 up to submission of tender 11:00am.
- Date & time for opening of : 12.08.2012 at tender 11:05am.

Earnest money @ 3% (three percent) of the total quoted price shall have to be submitted in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order/Irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh along with the tender in favour of "The Managing Director, The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd, Gazipur". Irrevocable Bank Guarantee may also be given from an international commercial bank abroad, with a counter guarantee from any scheduled bank in Bangladesh. Tender without earnest money shall not be acceptable. The tender addressed to the Managing Director, The Security Printing Corporation (Bangladesh) Ltd, Gazipur shall have to be dropped in the tender box kept in Corporation's Office at Gazipur and all the tender(s) to be received will be opened together at Corporation's Office, Gazipur in presence of tenderer(s) if any. Tender may also be sent through postal/courier services which must be reached on or before the scheduled deadline. 1(one) tender schedule is applicable only for one local/international manufacturer/supplier for submitting one offer along with earnest money. The authority reserves the right to reject or accept any tender(s) without assigning any reason whatsoever. Submission of tender after the specified time shall not be acceptable under any circumstances.

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Sohel Taj quits

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minister for home on May 31, 2009 following reported interference in his work. He sent his resignation as a lawmaker on July 23 from the United States. But the Speaker did not accept it on the ground that he had not submitted it in person.

When Sohel Taj met the Speaker at his parliament office, his resignation letter dated April 23 was finally accepted. The speaker, however, wanted him to sign a new resignation letter. As he declined to do so, the Speaker accepted the old one, said sources close to Sohel Taj.

Acceptance of the resignation has put an end to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's efforts to keep Sohel Taj as a state minister without portfolio as his resignation as an MP disqualifies him for the position according to Article 58 (1) (b) of the Constitution.

Sohel Taj met the premier after the Speaker accepted his resignation on Saturday. During Saturday's talks, Hasina reiterated her request to keep him on board in politics, according to Sohel Taj.

In their amicable talks, they discussed various national and international issues. He wished well for the government in its future direction.

Meanwhile, the Speaker informed the House yesterday that Sohel Taj's constituency had been vacated following his resignation. Under electoral rules, a by-election will have to be held in the constituency within 90 days.

The main opposition BNP has meanwhile distributed sweets over the resignation, while leaders of the ruling Awami League have started lobbying for the

BB finds signs

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their 252 bank accounts deposited Tk 5,118 crore, of which Tk 5,099 crore was transferred to personal accounts of their directors and several associated firms and was again withdrawn, the BB inquiry found.

All these transactions took place between 2001 and the first quarter of this year.

"It seems, the Group directors embezzled the huge amount of money in the name of taking commission through violating laws," the report said.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith asked the banking division to send the report to the prime minister after incorporating opinions of the commerce ministry and the Local Government Division, a finance ministry official told The Daily Star.

The finance ministry will take action against Destiny on prime minister's advice, the official added.

The laws under which Destiny Multipurpose Cooperative Society was registered do not permit deposit collection, the BB report said.

Those on the board of

directors of Destiny Multipurpose Cooperative Society Ltd and Destiny 2000 Ltd are mostly the same persons and the benefit of their decisions went to a selected few, it added.

In the process, the cooperative society incurred a loss of Tk 686.53 crore, the liability of which falls on more than 9 lakh share holders the cooperative has.

Most of the transactions were done through 11 banks, including two foreign ones.

According to the report, the directors and associate companies of Destiny Group's 37 concerns have 443 bank accounts. Another 252 accounts were found closed.

Recently, the central bank froze most of the bank accounts of the group's sister concerns and their directors.

This followed news reports on numerous irregularities of Destiny 2000 Ltd after a Bangladesh Bank inquiry found evidence of illegal banking by Destiny Multipurpose Cooperative Society.

The Anti-Corruption Commission has already opened an investigation into the alleged irregularities and

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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company Ltd. invites applications from Bangladeshi citizen for the following positions:

SL. #	Name of the post	Age (Maximum)	Qualifications	Experience
01	Head of IT	45 Years	B.Sc in Computer Science / B.Sc in Computer Science & Engineering/ Master's Degree in any Discipline from reputed university.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7(Seven) years working experience as programmer in a reputed Company. At least 3 (Three) Years working experience as Head of IT will be preferred. Must be Oracle Certified Professional (OCP) Experience in Oracle Database 9i/10g/11g. Experience in Developer 6i/9i/10g and oracle reporting tools. Oracle Application Express(Oracle Apex) Oracle BIEE/BI Publisher. Evaluate, select vendor and cost effective solution for life insurance operation, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements. Perform R & D to identify the scope of ideas that may scale up the output level. Commitment to abide by the security policies and code of conduct of organization.
02	Assistant Programmer	35 Years	B.Sc in Computer Science / B.Sc in Computer Science & Engineering/ Bachelor Degree in any Discipline from reputed university	4(Four) years working experience in Programming Language in a Reputed Company/Reputed Software Company and fair knowledge in Oracle Database 9i,10g, 11g, Developer 6i/ 9i/ 10g and Developer Suite, Oracle Application Express (Oracle Apex)

Higher starting salary may be offered in case of well-experienced and deserving candidates. Interested candidates having requisite qualifications and experiences are asked to submit their CV to the undersigned by July 19, 2012.

Name of the post applied for shall have to be written on the Envelope. Candidates applied earlier need not to apply again.

Managing Director